

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

AGR-20 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 STR-08 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

OMB-01 RSR-01 /131 W

----- 002556

R 212100 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4046

INFO AMEMBASSY BRAZILIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAN JOSE 1760

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (P A R A L I N E 5)

BRAZILIA FOR THE SECRETARY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EIND, CS

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER INQUIRES ABOUT RENEWING
CONVERSATIONS ON COTTON TEXTILE QUOTA

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH ME MAY 21, FACIO ASKED
WHETHER IT WOULD BE PROPITIOUS NOW TO REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS
FOR A NEW COTTON TEXTILE BILATERAL. WHILE MOST COSTA
RICAN TEXTILE FIRMS CONTINUE TO EXPORT, HE SAID, THERE
IS AN UNCERTAINTY IN THE INDUSTRY OVER THE FUTURE, AND

AFFECTS THEIR FUTURE PLANNING. ANOTHER ELEMENT IS
THAT SOME OFFERS HAVE BEEN RECEIVED FROM TAIWAN FIRMS FOR
JOINT EXPORT VENTURES IN TEXTILE (AND OTHER) FIELDS, BUT
THE GOCR DOES NOT KNOW WHETHER TO ENCOURAGE OR DISCOURAGE
SUCH OFFERS SINCE IT WOULD NOT WISH TO ENCOURAGE AN IN-
VESTMENT THAT THEN HAD NO REAL EXPORT MARKET. HE THOUGHT
IT MIGHT BE DESIRABLE THEREFORE IF THE UNCERTAINTY COULD
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BE ELIMINATED THROUGH A NEW AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING FUTURE
COSTA RICAN EXPORT LEVELS. THEN THE INDUSTRY COULD
PLAN BETTER.

2. I ASKED THE MINISTER WHAT COSTA RICA'S POSITION
WOULD BE WITH REGARD TO A NEW BILATERAL, AND HE SAID
COSTA RICA STILL MAINTAINS IT SHOULD HAVE TREATMENT
COMPARABLE TO THAT GIVEN TO NICARAGUA AND SO WOULD
REQUEST THE SAME LEVEL AS IN PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS,
I. E., AN APPROXIMATELY 5 MILLION SQUARE YARD AGGREGATE.
I OBSERVED THAT I UNDERSTOOD THE LTA WOULD BE UP FOR
RENEGOTIATION EITHER LATE THIS SUMMER OR FALL, AND THAT
IT MIGHT BE USEFUL TO WAIT AND SEE WHAT THAT PROVIDED
BEFORE ENGAGING IN BILATERAL TALKS. BUT IN ANY CASE,
I SAID, I WOULD RELAY HIS QUERY TO WASHINGTON AND GET
AN INFORMAL SOUNDING AS TO WHETHER IT APPEARED FRUITFUL
TO REOPEN CONVERSATIONS NOW OR IF NOT NOW, WHEN.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. I WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING
GUIDANCE AS TO HOW TO RESPOND TO THE MINISTER'S QUERY.
THE MINISTER LEAVES TOMORROW TO ATTEND THE ARGENTINE
INAUGURATION AND PAY A SHORT VISIT TO CHILE. HE IS DUE
TO RETURN JUNE 1.
VAKY

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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